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Subject: passenger profiling

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To whom it may concern,

I am writing about new regulations regarding random passenger searching and profiling at airports.

I just finished watching TV about the high school killings in Littleton, co. It is tragic, but superficial, feel-good remedies are NOT the answer. In the Colorado example, all the gun control in the world will not stop these kids who managed to acquire grenades!

In airports, we have tight security already, yet none of the proposed remedies will stop terrorists, and will cost a fortune. Please do not add beaurocracy or federal regulation unless it will really make a significant difference.

Sincerely,  
Scott Mabel  
Commercial Pilot

From Wired Online:  
<http://www.wired.com/news/news/email/tip/politics/story/19218.html?1>

You? A Terrorist? Yes!  
by Declan McCullagh

3:00 a.m. 20.Apr.99.PDT  
WASHINGTON -- A US\$2.8-billion monitoring system championed by Vice President Gore will use computer profiles to single out airline passengers for investigation and scrutiny. Airlines will use a secret algorithm to compare travelers' personal data to profiles of likely terrorists, according to a new proposed federal regulation. Other travelers will be chosen at random.

Critics complain the plan shows that Gore doesn't really support privacy. Last May, the vice president told an audience of graduating students at New York University that privacy "is a basic American value."

"He's been talking about privacy and the protection of personal information online, but those principles that he talks about don't parallel what he's done. He's tried to force intrusive measures into law," says Lisa Dean, vice president of the Free Congress Foundation. "We'd have even more of this with a President Gore."

The vice president chaired a high-level White House commission that in 1997 released recommendations that the Federal Aviation Administration compiled into a 40-page rule published Monday.

Unless FAA officials change their minds, all 32 US-based airlines will be required to concoct computer-assisted passenger screening programs, called

CAPS. Many of the larger airlines, including Northwest Airlines, have already complied.

"It's software that runs on the airline's reservation system. What it does is select passengers whose checked bags will require additional security and it also selects passengers at random," says FAA spokesperson Rebecca Trexler.

According to the proposed rule, "Random selection helps to ensure passengers' civil liberties by guaranteeing that no individual or group of individuals is excluded from the selection process."

Airlines will already



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